

# SES CONNECTION



## A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR



**This newsletter is a  
bimonthly publication of  
UAF Student &  
Enrollment Services.**

Please direct comments and  
contributions to the  
following:

Email: [fyses@uaf.edu](mailto:fyses@uaf.edu)

Phone: 907-474-7317

Fax: 907-474-7900

Mailing: PO Box 756340

Web: [www.uaf.edu/ses/](http://www.uaf.edu/ses/)

Student & Enrollment  
Services  
is located on the 5th floor of  
Gruening Building.



I'm excited to be back in the Division of Student and Enrollment Services and I thank you for making my transition positive, inviting and successful. But, the honest truth is – I never left. You see, once you've dedicated even the shortest period of time working in student services, it stays with you for the rest of your personal and professional life.

When Chancellor Rogers approached me about serving as Vice Chancellor he highlighted his commitment to student success and creating a more student-focused university. The Chancellor's vision was compelling, important and of course attractive. But there was more to my decision to serve than this simple yet powerful vision.

I know what you do. I appreciate what you do and many times I have been in awe of your work and commitment toward a common purpose – student success. What you do changes lives and transforms our university. You collectively help shape our state's future by supporting our students. Now, that may all sound a bit melodramatic – but it's not. It's true. Just watch the faces during graduation or speak to a graduate, or parent, or community leader, or legislator. UAF continues to transform Alaska's future and you are all a part of that transformation. I know all this because I know what you do. I appreciate what you do – and I see you change lives each day.

As many of you know, I spent time as an RA – trying to balance the responsibilities of that position with the reality of being a full time student. As a Hall Director I enjoyed the challenges (including weekends) of the position that included the creation of a safe living and learning environment where life's lessons were sometimes more challenging than expected.

As an admissions counselor I spent many an hour on the road – hauling catalogs from college fair to college fair – in hopes of attracting to UAF students from around the country. In later years some of those students became friends and colleagues. I won't go through each phase of my career in student services, but suffice it to say that I've spent a fair bit of time creating new student programs and activities (Hess Center was a room full of broken chairs and desks before we transformed it into a more student-friendly place – and look at it now...), leading

orientation (including the development of the first UAF Parent Orientation Program), writing and producing recruitment videos and TV commercials (way before DVDs, MP3s, or digital anything), training RAs and Hall Directors, serving as an NCAA Compliance Officer and Athletic Academic Advisor, and working closely with the Registrar's Office, Financial Aid, RSS, and other UAF SES offices. One of my more challenging positions occurred during the "merger," when I served as the "Coordinator for Student Services, Branch Campuses." This position required me to create processes and programs that would enable a "smooth" transition and integration of what are now Community Campuses into the main campus community.

I also spent a very fulfilling two years in the College of Rural Alaska (now CRCD) working with former Dean Ralph Gabrielli and staff. I learned first hand the responsibility UAF has to the people of rural Alaska and the positive change we can bring to them through partnerships and programs. That position (like the VC position) was less of a job and more of a mission. These experiences led me to UA Statewide and the creation of the UA Office of Student and Enrollment Services. Here I worked with a team of student services professionals that dedicated themselves to supporting their campus-based colleagues.

And finally, as a faculty member and Associate Dean – many of my student services experiences helped to guide and inform the way in which I addressed more than one difficult or challenging student issue. So, you see, once you've dedicated even the shortest period of time to student services, it stays with you - and a part of you for the rest of your personal and professional life.

I am honored to serve as UAF's Vice Chancellor for Students – not because of the title – but because of the mission and purpose of our work. And that mission and purpose allows me to work with a Division of dedicated student services professionals who each day change lives, transform communities, and simply make a difference. Thank you for the work you do – and I look forward to working with you on behalf of our UAF students and Alumni.

**STUDENT AND ENROLLMENT SERVICES**

514 GRUENING 474-7317  
[www.uaf.edu/ses](http://www.uaf.edu/ses)

**Mike Sfraga**, Vice Chancellor for Students

**Kevin Huddy**, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Services

**Don Foley**, Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Life

**Ali Knabe**, Executive Officer  
**vacant**, Executive Assistant

**Jennifer Fontes**, Office Manager

**Beth Barrett**, Fiscal Technician

**ASUAF**

119 WOOD CENTER  
474-7355

[www.asuaf.org](http://www.asuaf.org)

Sabra Phillips, Executive Officer

—**Student Services**—

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

208 WHITAKER BUILDING  
474-5655

[www.uaf.edu/chc/disability.html](http://www.uaf.edu/chc/disability.html)

Mary Matthews, Director  
Marcy Phillips, Admin Assistant

**HEALTH & COUNSELING**

203 WHITAKER BUILDING  
474-7043

[www.uaf.edu/chc/](http://www.uaf.edu/chc/)

BJ Aldrich, Director  
Margaret Kellogg, Office Manager

**RESIDENCE LIFE**

MAIN FL MBS COMPLEX  
474-7247

[www.uaf.edu/reslife/](http://www.uaf.edu/reslife/)

Kevin Huddy, Director  
Jody Toll, Personnel/Payroll Assistant

**STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

**SES Newsletter Committee**



Geri Wilda, Ashley Munro and Dayna Mackey

**Geri Wilda** moved to Alaska 25 years ago with her husband. She finished her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting at UAF in 1990. Geri has two daughters, Caiti who just finished her AAS in Emergency Services and the Paramedic program here at UAF and Chris who will graduate from West Valley in May. Geri has worked for UAF and the Admissions Office since August 2002. She began as a processing clerk and has

been in her current position as the Communications Coordinator since September 2004.

**Ashley Munro** moved to Fairbanks from Ohio to attend UAF. She graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Anthropology in 2005. She worked at Interior-Aleutians Campus before joining the Financial Aid Office two years ago. Ashley lives with her husband and dogs just outside of town and loves to play competitive sports.

**Dayna Mackey** moved to Fairbanks with her husband in January of 2008 to accept her dream job of working in a student union, at the Wood Center. She received her Masters Degree in Higher Education Administration at the University of Arkansas in 2002. Dayna enjoys spending time with her husband, cat and two dogs, as well as golfing and yoga.

**HEALTH AND COUNSELING**

**New Staff**

We are happy to have two new people joining our staff this semester. Amy Snedigar is a Nurse Practitioner and will be doing general healthcare visits. Anna Stefan is a student in the CMA program and will be doing her internship with us.

**Coming to UAF this Summer !**

Student Health and Counseling services will be available during the summer. Beginning May 17 through August 13, from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. We will be providing medical and counseling services along with administrative and student health insurance services. Students must be taking 6 credits to be eligible and there will be a \$66 health center fee. Optional eligibility is available for students not taking 6 credits during the summer, but were eligible during spring 2010 and are enrolled in at least 6 credits for fall 2010. These students can pay a bridge fee of \$66 and use the health center.

**Our Outreach**

During Sexual Responsibility Week, Nancy Bayer, ANP assisted Res Life with the “Between the Sheets” event and at the “Don’t Catch a Love Bug” event, Nancy and Terri Berrie handed out approx 60 “Don’t Catch a Love Bug” boxes to students at MBS.

Nancy Bayer, ANP also had a successful “Kick-Off with her —Lose to Win|| program with 30 in attendance and has 20 actively participating in the 2<sup>nd</sup> weigh in. Sharon Hollensbe, our head counselor, was a guest speaker for the event. Students weighing in can use MBS and the Health Center to enter the weight. Nancy continues her Food Bites tables at Lola Tilly Commons and the Wood Center providing students with helpful information about nutrition, calories, serving sizes, etc.

Donna Patrick, ANP continues her tradition of writing a column in the SunStar on all kinds of interesting medical issues. Let her know if you have a topic you’d like her to explore.

June Thomasson, PA-C has wonderful articles about natural health on our website that are quite informative when students want to use an alternate method of treatment. Be sure to check out our website: <http://www.uaf.edu/chc>  
Our Center’s email address is [fyheaco@uaf.edu](mailto:fyheaco@uaf.edu).

**Coming Soon!**

Be on the lookout for our annual Health Fair at the Wood Center. Time and dates TBD.

Contact: BJ Aldrich, [bjaldrich@alaska.edu](mailto:bjaldrich@alaska.edu)

## ADMISSIONS



### Welcome to the world Baby Bennett!

We are pleased to announce the birth of Jacob Allen Bennett who was born on January 22, 2010. His parents, Jessica and Josh Bennett, were pleased to welcome their 6 lb 1 oz bundle

of joy to the world and to the UAF family. Please join us in congratulating the new parents.

### Welcome to UAF Chris Wheeler!

We are also excited to announce the hire of Chris Wheeler. Chris joined the admissions counseling team on March 1, 2010. He hails from Monmouth, OR and has most recently worked in Alumni Relations. As soon as we have Chris' contact information we will pass it on!

### Welcome Back!

Nancy Dix has returned to Admissions as a temporary counselor. Her hours are 9-1. Nancy will be with us until the end of April. Thanks for helping us out Nancy!

### Upcoming admissions events:

Do you know someone who might be interested in UAF or is planning to attend UAF in the near future? Please invite them to join us for one of our upcoming admissions events!

March 24-26 - CollegeWeekLive - An online virtual open house for any student thinking about attending colleges. Students will be able to chat with approximately 250 colleges and universities across the country. Sign up at <http://www.collegeweeklive.com>!

March 26 - Discover UAF: Inside out - Our bi-annual preview event for Juniors and Seniors will be held in conjunction with Major Mania. Please encourage your juniors and seniors to register now. Space is limited. Sign up at <http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/insideout>.

April 17 - Discover UAF: UA Scholars - This event is for juniors who think they might be designated as a UA Scholar; for seniors who have been designated as UA Scholars; and for any student wanting more information about UAF, Admissions, and Financial Aid. More information can be found at <http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/discoveruaf>.

### We're looking for a few good Nanooks!

Do you know a student who you think would be a good ambassador for UAF? Nominations are now being accepted for the 2010-2011 Admissions Student Ambassador positions. Nominated students will be invited to apply and interview for this competitive position. Please send all nominations to Joe Alloway at [jaalloway@alaska.edu](mailto:jaalloway@alaska.edu). Include the student's name, e-mail address, student id (if known), and address (if known).

Contact: Lael Oldmixon,  
[lmoldmixon@alaska.edu](mailto:lmoldmixon@alaska.edu)

### —Enrollment Services—

#### ADMISSIONS

215 SIGNER'S HALL  
474-7500

[www.uaf.edu/admissions/](http://www.uaf.edu/admissions/)  
Mike Earnest, Director  
Valerie Rickards, Office Manager

#### FINANCIAL AID

107 EIELSON BUILDING  
474-7256

[www.uaf.edu/finaid/](http://www.uaf.edu/finaid/)  
Deanna Dieringer, Director

#### FRESHMAN & TRANSFER SERVICES

Megan Allen, Coordinator

#### REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

102 SIGNERS' HALL  
474-6300

[www.uaf.edu/reg/](http://www.uaf.edu/reg/)  
Tim Stickel, Registrar  
Mae Del Castillo, Office Manager

### —Student Life—

#### CAREER SERVICES

110 EIELSON BUILDING  
474-7596

[www.uaf.edu/career/](http://www.uaf.edu/career/)  
Patti Picha, Director  
MarySue Dates, Office Manager

#### UPWARD BOUND

218 EIELSON  
474-5685

[www.ub.uaf.edu](http://www.ub.uaf.edu)  
Andy Angaiak, Director  
Graehl Brooks, Admin Assistant

#### WOOD CENTER

101 WOOD CENTER  
474-7037

[www.uaf.edu/woodctr/](http://www.uaf.edu/woodctr/)  
Lydia Anderson, Director  
Julene Lowdermilk, Admin Assistant

## UPCOMING DATES

### March 15

Late Deadline for Spring 2010  
Graduation (Registrar)

### March 24

Career Expo (Career Services)

### March 26

Discover UAF: Inside Out  
(Admissions)  
Major Mania (Academic Advising)  
Last Day to Withdrawal (Registrar)

### April 4-10

National Student Employee Week

### April 5

Registration for fall classes opens  
(Registrar)

### April 13-14

Halliburton Recruitment (Career Services)

### April 22-24

Spring Fest (UAF Traditions)

### April 29

I'm Going to College (Financial Aid)

### May 4

Paying for College Night (Financial Aid)

### May 10-13

Final Exams

### May 16

Commencement

### May 17

Residence Halls Close (Residence Life)

### May 19

Staff Appreciation Day

## REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

### Enrollment Numbers: Ever Changing

This semester has brought an increase to our enrollment numbers. At the beginning of Spring 2009 our enrollment reports showed over 6,500 students enrolled while this February we see over 7,000 students currently enrolled for Spring 2010 semester. The increase of enrollment has been seen here in Signers' Hall and around campus; as you all well know.

### DegreeWorks

DegreeWorks is the new online degree audit system available to students and their advisors.

"Just as a Global Positioning System will tell you exactly where you are every step of the way, DegreeWorks is your Graduation Positioning System that tells how far you've come and how far you need to go to reach your graduation goals."

For more information on what DegreeWorks can do, check out: <http://www.uaf.edu/reg/degreeworks/>

Contact: Carlise Giles, [cpgiles@alaska.edu](mailto:cpgiles@alaska.edu)



## WOOD CENTER

### Spring 2010 New Student Orientation a Success!

The day before spring classes began was full of bustle in the Wood Center as the latest batch of incoming UAF students participated in Spring 2010 New Student Orientation. Almost 70 students officially checked into the program, and most of them stayed through the Academic Lunch. They were warmly welcomed to UAF by the NSO Coordinator Terin Porter and NSO Team of 10 Orientation Leaders and two Orientation Laborers, Vice Chancellor for Students Mike Sfraga, and Chancellor Brian Rogers. Professor Charlie Dexter of the TVC Applied Business program provided an engaging keynote address on inspiring yourself and others, and how to make people like you. This was the first time a faculty member gave the NSO keynote address, and it was a wonderful addition to the program.

Through other NSO sessions, new students learned about Summer Sessions offerings, DegreeWorks, OIT, various academic success resources, dealing with tough Alaska weather, campus safety and risk taking, and student jobs and career preparation. OL's led their new students through an NSO Group Connection time with icebreakers, Q&A, and a

more personalized approach to acquainting newbies to the UAF campus and community. Faculty and academic staff mingled with students during the Academic Lunch, and five Faculty Panel members shared their valuable insights and tips to prep these students for success at UAF. Campus tours, the usually popular Resource Fair, and two evening entertainment options were offered to students as well, but unfortunately participation numbers in these last three elements were significantly lower than the rest of the day.

Ultimately, Spring 2010 NSO was a campus community effort and an overall success. Testimonials like the following provided by new student Katie Griffin are invaluable in speaking to its positive impact: "What's more daunting than going to college for the first time? The thought of not knowing anyone, starting the first day of your pseudo-adult life...everything is scary. Coming to NSO is so important...I came away from it knowing a couple people and more importantly, knowing about the school. No amount of pamphlets and websites can prepare you like orientation."

Contact: Lydia Anderson, [lynderson@alaska.edu](mailto:lynderson@alaska.edu)

### Good Bye Terin!

Terin Porter left UAF in February to prepare for the arrival of her first child. On behalf of Wood Center, we would like to thank her for her two years of service and dedication to New Student Orientation. We wish you well and will miss your smiling face and energy.



## SIGNERS' HALL

### Signers' Hall Renovation Complete!

As Fall 2009 semester finished and the Spring 2010 semester began, we found ourselves with a refreshed office space. Our office door has been relocated to accommodate our new wall computer module and our counter has been adjusted to meet the ADA recommended height. The adjustments have greatly increased the space

available in our office and in the main Signers' Hall Lobby. A new desk has been built in the available space of the lobby to work as an information center to be utilized during peak registration periods. If you have not had a chance already, please take some time to stop by and see the amazing upgrades!

Contact: Carlise Giles, [cpgiles@alaska.edu](mailto:cpgiles@alaska.edu)



New Signers' Hall Lobby



Old Signers' Hall Lobby



## DINING SERVICES

### Dining Changes

Over the winter break, many changes took place at Wood Center Dining locations. The Wood Center Polar Perks and Pizza Piazza relocated to the main food court of the Wood Center. At the same time, Tsunami Sushi and Freshens moved into the old Polar Perks location, on the north side of the Wood Center. A new sandwich shop opened alongside Freshens. At that location we will also be opening UniversiTea, offering a variety of loose teas.

These location changes have allowed us to offer a wider variety of menu items and

location hours. Sandwiches are made to order, and can be enjoyed with a cup or bowl of the soup of the day. Grill 155 has extended its operating hours and will be open on the weekends.

There is also a new location on campus to purchase coffee. The Rasmuson Library 24 hour study area is now home to a Polar Perks coffee; open Monday to Friday 7:30 AM to 9:00 PM.

Contact: Mary DuRousseau  
[mldurousseau@alaska.edu](mailto:mldurousseau@alaska.edu)



## RESIDENCE LIFE



### Now Hiring

Residence Life is advertising for several positions: Resident Assistants for 2010-2011 and Summer Conference positions ranging

from Customer Service to Grounds Crew. You can inquire at [UAKjobs.com](http://UAKjobs.com) or at Residence Life.

Contact Laura McCoullough, [fnlcm@uaf.edu](mailto:fnlcm@uaf.edu)

Do you have a Facebook account? Add UAF Staff Council as a friend to get updates on issues affecting staff!

## FINANCIAL AID

### February FAFSA Frenzy

We have had a busy month with Financial Aid outreach. We celebrated College Goal Sunday on January 31st at Lathrop High School. Across the state, there were 8 sites with UAF staff volunteers. On February 1, we hosted our first annual Financial Sense Day, with a financial resource fair, FAFSA completion workshops and 15 financial literacy workshops. The event was open to UAF students, high school students and the Fairbanks community. We had an excellent turnout, with more than session having standing room only! Throughout February, we have hosted 39 workshops in computer labs, audio-conference, high school visits and video-conference and have visited several classes on campus to talk about financial aid. It truly was February FAFSA Frenzy!

athletes and two hands-on sessions taught by faculty volunteers. Common sessions are science experiments, math activities, language lessons and visits to the police and fire departments. The Financial Aid Office is currently looking for volunteers to assist with backpack stuffing and showing the students around campus. This will be our largest single-day I'm Going to College event!

### Financial Sense Workshops

Our regular Financial Sense workshop series will begin on March 4 and will be held every Thursday from 1:05-1:55 in Gruening 402. The financial literacy topics can be found online at [www.uaf.edu/finaid](http://www.uaf.edu/finaid). The workshops are open to the public.

### Changes to Alaska Student Loans

As of February 14, changes have been made to the Alaska Supplemental Education Loan, and all other alternative loans, based on federal regulations. All students will need to complete a new Master Promissory Note each time they request the loan or an increase of the loan. After the packet is submitted, the Alaska Student Loan Corporation will mail the student information regarding alternative loans. The student will need to read through the paperwork and self-certify that they have done so. Only after all steps are completed, will the loan funds be sent to the school. This can cause a delay of up to ten business days; therefore we encourage all students to complete the paperwork as early as possible.

Contact: Ashley Munro, [akmunro@alaska.edu](mailto:akmunro@alaska.edu)

### I'm Going to College



On April 29th, 500 elementary school kids will be on campus for the I'm Going to College Program. Participants will be from Chinook Charter School, Denali Elementary, Ann Wien Elementary, Ladd Elementary and Joy Elementary. After a few weeks of talking about college and participating in the IGTC workbooks, students will visit campus for the day. The field trip consists of a tour of campus, lunch in the Commons with UAF



## VETERAN INFORMATION

The transition from military life to University life can be challenging. Moving from a system of structure where many choices are made for you, to the educational system in which you have many choices, can be overwhelming. To assist you in this transition Career Services and Financial Aid are available to review the various services offered on campus designed to support student's academic success.

Please stop by between 12:30-2:00 each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in Wood Center Meeting Room A or the Wood Center Mall area. Some of the topics we plan to cover include: Navigating UAF, Selecting a Major, Student Resources and Becoming Involved on Campus.

Contact: Patti Picha, [lpicha@alaska.edu](mailto:lpicha@alaska.edu)

## BUSINESS OFFICE

Beginning Fall of 2010, the Business Office will be using Tuition Management Systems (TMS) to outsource payment plans. UAA already uses TMS and the process will be

very similar. More information will be available soon.

Contact: Amanda Wall, [aiwall@alaska.edu](mailto:aiwall@alaska.edu)

### Newsletter Committee

Ashley Munro, Chair  
Geri Wilda  
Dayna Mackey

## BRISTOL BAY CAMPUS



BBC Student and Enrollment Services Staff (from left to right): Melissa Nelson, Darlene Olson, JD Cross, Sarah Wingert, Nicole Strub and Tracey Eason

Bristol Bay Campus Student Services is unique because we work with and advise students at ALL levels in their educational goals. We strive to ensure our students are successful by providing one-on-one tutoring in the student's home community, loaning equipment to students, assisting in securing individual funding and bringing our programs out to the students and communities that we serve. We visit communities to gather information on what programs are needed. Our individualized classes suit the needs of our local agencies, as well as students so that the entire community benefits from our projects.

**Tracey Eason** is the Student Services Manager. Tracey moved to Dillingham with her husband and two children in 2001. She graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Human Services and is currently pursuing a M. Ed. in Community Counseling. Tracey has worked at the Bristol Bay Campus since September 2006, in the IT department and Student Services. Tracey is very involved with the local agencies and with advising and financial aid. Tracey enjoys spending time with her family, reading, beading, and skin sewing.

**JD Cross** is a lifelong resident of Bristol Bay and has been with the campus since 1995. She is the Admissions and Records Coordinator. JD enjoys having direct contact with the students as she advises, helps with financial aid, and works to maintain important relationships with the partners of the campus. A graduate of UAF, JD is working on her second degree in Human Resources which she will complete this May. When time and the seasons permit, JD enjoys subsistence activities and anything family oriented.

**Darlene Olson** is the Career and Academic Counselor. Darlene offers assistance to students to achieve their educational goals. Darlene travels to the communities that BBC serves to provide

testing, advising, financial aid assistance, and recruits for various programs. While in villages, Darlene works to build relationships and make connections with local organizations to ensure student success. Outside of work, Darlene enjoys spending time with her family, berry picking, camping, fishing, hiking, snow machining and traveling.

**Melissa Nelson** joined the campus in September as a Student Services Technician, acting as the first contact for students. After moving from Portland, she received her B.S. in Wildlife Biology from UAF in 2008. During her time at UAF, Melissa has been heavily involved in the student government and campus clubs. She has a creative mind and continually strives to inform students using the new media currently popular with students.

**Sarah Wingert** is the Environmental Studies Coordinator. She moved to Dillingham with her husband in 2007 and has been working at the campus for over 2 years. Sarah has a Bachelor's of Arts in Marine Biology and has 8 years experience working in fisheries and environmental science fields. On campus, Sarah works with students pursuing the Environmental Studies certificate and manages the projects and activities of the Bristol Bay Environmental Science Laboratory.

**Nicole Strub** is the Program Assistant for Allied Health. She was born and raised in Dillingham; she left Bristol Bay in 1996 to further her education. Nicole graduated from Fort Lewis College in 2001 with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Science. She returned home in 2006 and began working for the campus in 2008. Nicole works with students who are interested in various Health Careers and is looking forward to the possibility that students can stay in Bristol Bay to finish their education. She assists students with advising, registration, financial aid, tutoring and works closely with the Allied Health faculty.

